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A Wonderful Sermon.

By the request of the editor of the Sun, the following sermon delivered Sunday, December 6, by Dr. W. H. Thomas, pastor of Allen chapel, A. M. E. church, Kansas City, Mo., was stenographically reported by Miss Ruby and Miss Ruth Walker, Miss Ruth Seymour and Joseph W. Rollins and Frederick Coffey, students of the commercial department at Western University, Quindaro, Kas.

Your attention this morning is invited to the words which are found in the first book of Corinthians, ninth chapter and twenty-second verse. It reads as follows: "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak." If you have found the mission of Jesus Christ to the world, you have found the mission of His church. For he said, "As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you." The angel in announcing his birth said: "You shall



REV. WM. H. THOMAS, D. D.
The eloquent and scholarly pastor of Allen Chapel, who delivered a magnificent sermon last Sunday morning, which is reproduced in this issue.

call his name Jesus for he shall save his people from their sins."

In defining his own mission he said: "The Son of man is not come to be ministered unto, but to minister and give his life a ransom for many. I came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance."

The church of today needs a new vision of its mission. We have that in these words of the Apostle Paul: "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak." That must characterize the church of today that is to win.

First—The church that is to win in this day and time must be a church that stands for and preaches without compromise the old doctrine of sin and salvation.

I wish to say right here that I am not speaking of the church as a pessimist. I am not at all pessimistic or doubtful when it comes to the church; nor am I speaking as a reckless, senseless optimist who refuses to accept a thing when he sees it with his eyes. And whenever I hear men speak of the failures of the church and what that church has failed to do, I say to myself no institution can be spoken of as a failure that can do for men what the church has done for me. When I look over my life and when I realize what I have gained from other institutions and compare that with what I have gained from the church, I say that no institution which can do for other men what the church has done for me can be spoken of and regarded as a failure. But we are face to face with this fact: that the church has not done all that the work which Jesus Christ intended that it should do.

Now I hear a great deal today about the church losing its grip on the masses, and I have made a personal study right here in Kansas City. Here and there you will find a dwindling congregation. Here and there you will find a church with a good congregation in the morning and no congregation at night. But I want to say right here that no church which stands for and preaches unflinchingly the old doctrine of sin and salvation, evinces any decay. Crowds in the morning and crowds in the evening. Yes, I know there is a way to preach these doctrines so as to drive men and women away from the church and a way to preach them so as to win men and women to the church.

The pulpit is sometimes criticised for not preaching the terrors of hell as fervently and as frequently as did the church of old. The question is asked: "Does the church believe in hell?" The answer is: "Yes." The church still believes in hell, and the only difference is a less literal interpretation of that hell. The church also believes that to preach hell as though we were glad that there was a hell to which men must go to suffer is worse than never to preach hell at all. The mission of the church is not so much the deliverance of men from a possible future hell as their deliverance from an actual present hell. The mission of the church is to go to men and women who are living in an actual present hell and to lead them out into a heaven of rest and peace, spiritual contentment. In other words, the church that is to win must be a church with a human spirit. A human church. "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak."

There are two instances in the Scriptures which have seemed to me a grip that will not let me go. One of the instances is where Jesus is being entertained at supper by a Pharisee, and there also sat at the table

with the other guests—a man with the dropsy. And it is said of the men at that supper that they watched Jesus to see what he would do with the man who had the dropsy. The other instance is in the book of Acts, where Peter and John were on their way to the temple at the hour of evening worship. And outside of the temple gate they were accosted by a beggar, a lame man with a cup in his hand asking for alms. These two instances have fixed themselves in my mind, and I have always asked this question: "Why did they watch Jesus at that supper?" You and I know that he was a specially invited guest, and I wonder if it was because they loved him and wanted to honor him, or because they wanted to criticize him and embarrass him. They had deliberately placed the man with the dropsy at the table to see what Jesus would do with him.

Take these two men, Peter and John, who were accosted outside the temple gate by a beggar at the door. They could not pass in without seeing that man. I have often asked myself this question: "What would I have done if at the hour of worship I had chance to meet that beggar outside?" I have asked myself that question. And I think, my friends, to be very honest, I would have had sympathy for him. I would have made some mental comment of his unfortunate condition; of his never being able to walk. But as he handed the cup and asked for alms I might have passed right on into the church. I wonder what you would have done. We know what Peter and John did. We know what Jesus did with the man with the dropsy. He helped the man. He gave them something to pay them for watching him at the supper. Peter and John said to the beggar: "Look on us." And the man looked upon them expecting to receive some material gifts. But he had to learn the lesson that the best gifts are not material. The best gifts are spiritual. Gifts for the mind and soul. And so Peter said: "Silver and gold I have none, but such as I have I give unto you. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, rise up and walk." And they went into the temple singing and praising God.

Friends, I have wondered to myself what an hour of real worship that must have been to Peter and John. I wonder how they must have felt when they looked over and saw that lame man rejoicing. How must have shouted. I say he must have shouted when he remembered what he had done with the lame man at the gate. And that man at the gate of the temple lies before the door of every church. He may not be a man with a tin cup asking for alms or money. Wherever the church is, the man in need is there, or else the church has no business there. When I see the church moving from down town up town, moving away from the shiftless, moving, heart throbbed mass of humanity up into the residential portion of the city, I shudder for that church. I tremble for it. The church of Jesus Christ should be closest to the human needs, no matter where those needs are. For the man is there, the woman is there. It may be a man in need of a place to lodge. It may be a man in need of a bed. It may be a man sick and in need of a doctor, nurse, a hospital, or it may be a woman, a young woman, fresh from the country, ignorant of the city ways, asking for instruction, seeking help. To whom shall she look for help if not to the church of her mother, the church of her father, the church of her Lord? But what will the church say to that girl from the country asking help? She will say to her: "You will have to be very careful. You must exercise the greatest care." But how can that young woman be careful? How can she exercise that care unless the church takes her by the hand and shows her what to do.

I know of a case right here in Allen chapel very recently. A young girl came from a country town and joined Allen chapel. She came to the ministerial said: "I want to get acquainted with the right kind of people."

I had her meet the young people of the Social Pathfinder and Christian Endeavor. Later on that same young woman took sick and was sent to the hospital. Then I was sent for. The young girl was not only physically sick but mentally sick, and wanted to unburden her mind to someone. So I sent for one of the deaconesses, and the deaconess listened to her story. All she needed was mothering. So the deaconess mothered her. When the deaconess was ready to go, before leaving, she said: "If, when you get well, you have no place to go, come to my house and I will take you in."

KANSAS CITY MUSIC ASSOCIATION
Will Entertain at
WRIGHT'S DANCING ACADEMY
14TH and MICHIGAN
Friday Evening, December 17, 1915
—WITH—
SHELTON BROOKS World's Greatest Colored Song Writer
CLARENCE BOWEN World's Renowned Tenor Soloist
PLAYING AT THE ORPHEUM THEATRE WEEK BEGINNING DECEMBER 12.
Come hear Brooks and Bowen sing their Own Songs and Entertain.
DANCING 25 CENTS—ADMISSION 25 CENTS—CONCERT 25 CENTS

A SPECIAL LUNCHEON
Will be Given for the Benefit of
ALLEN CHAPEL
at the Church
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16
From 12:00 to 2:00 o'clock.
MENU
Oyster Bisque Soup
Crackers Celery
Special Baked Potatoes
Tomato and Asparagus Salad
Hot Rolls Coffee
Butter Scotch Pie
25 CENTS
Thursday, December 16.
Minnie Robinson, Cateress.



PROF. J. H. FOSTER.
Superintendent of the Commercial Department of Western University, under whose direction the able sermon of Dr. Thomas was reported, and is himself one of the race's most expert stenographers. Next Sunday he has generously consented to have his students report for the Sun the sermon by Dr. S. W. Bacote of the Second Baptist Church on "These Three."

DR. VERNON IN MEMPHIS.
Dr. W. T. Vernon, ex-Registrar U. S. Treasury and ex-President Western University and Campbell College, is no worshiper of Avery Chapel A. M. E. Church, with 1,600 members, the largest church in Tennessee, and is meeting with great success.

The great revival conducted by Rev. Dr. J. W. Hurse, D.D., is attracting city wide attention and much good is being accomplished. The doctor is preaching the greatest sermons in his career and the church is crowded nightly and many are being converted.

—GRAND—
Musical and Gymnastic Exhibition
—BY—
2,000—SCHOOL CHILDREN—2,000
For the Benefit of the Colored Federated Charities
—AT—
Convention Hall, December 17th, 1915
Admission, 25 cents. Box Seats, 50 cents
Seats may be Reserved at the Paseo Y. M. C. A.

the door came running down the aisle and fell prostrate at the altar, saying: "Oh, God, forgive me—of my sins." Then she arose and said: "God has forgiven me; will you forgive me?" Would that church be true to its opportunity to welcome back the Magdalen? One of the finest women in that congregation got up, left her pew, came down the aisle, clasped that weeping girl to her and kissed her and they wept together. And it seemed to me that every woman in that church followed her. Then the members of the choir of which she was previously a member, came down and in turn they kissed her and wept with her. They literally kissed her shame away, and kissed her back into the church.

Oh, I wonder if we would be glad to welcome back the Magdalen and the Prodigal Son. I wonder if we still keep the light a burning in the window against the return of some poor wanderer? I wonder if we still await the moment for some wanderer to say: "I will arise and go to my Father's home." The church is our Father's home. Church of God.

"Let the lower lights be burning. Send a gleam across the wave. Some poor fainting, struggling seaman, You may rescue, you may save."

NOTICE.
The Editor and his staff will call on our Kansas City, Kansas, subscribers Monday and Tuesday, December 13 and 14. Please be ready for us.

A MASTERPIECE FOR 25 CENTS.
Booker T. Washington Painting made in 11x14 copies by Robert E. Bell.
500 Samples on Sale at
THE LEAGUE ENTERPRISE.
Bell phone East 1521. East 13th St.

GOOD NEWS TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.
The Sun is preparing to inaugurate January 1 our ANNUAL SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION RATE, and we want every one of our loyal faithful readers, 4,000 in number, to have the benefit of this rate as well as the 2,000 NEW SUBSCRIBERS we are expecting to obtain. But, dear subscriber, you can only get the benefit of this rate by being SQUARE WITH THE BOOKS. Won't you come by and pay up? Send your balance due in a letter or by the children. Or better still, call us up, Bell phone 939 East, and we will have our collectors come at once. WON'T YOU DO your duty and help us build up a great big Negro newspaper here to defend our rights. We have a number of out of town subscribers to whom we mailed statements some time ago—but until now we have failed to HEAR FROM YOU.
AREN'T YOU HONEST? Don't you want to be on the square? Then why not answer our letters or PAY UP?

NEGRO BUSINESS LEAGUE DOING A GREAT WORK.
Large Audience Greeted Them at Second Christian Church, 24th and Woodland Avenue.
Great interest was shown for the success of Negroes in the commercial and professional field. The following men made short talks: Mr. Charles H. Heath of Chicago, member of the United States Steel Corporation; Prof. J. D. Bowser, Dr. J. E. Dibble, Fortune J. Weaver, Prof. G. A. Page and J. A. Wilson, chairman. Our next meeting will be held Sunday night, December 12, at A. M. E. Zion Church, 1823 Woodland avenue. All business people are urged to attend regular Business League meeting Thursday night, 8 p. m. sharp, at Paseo Y. M. C. A.
The Editor of the Kansas City Star will address the Negroes of Kansas City, Sunday evening at 8 p. m., at Lincoln High School. All business people are especially invited to attend this meeting. The center section has been reserved for people who are in some kind of business. Do not fail to meet the man who edits the paper and molds the sentiment of Kansas City and vicinity. If you want to keep in touch with the doings of the Negro Business League, watch for the announcements in the Kansas City Sun.

FORTUNE J. WEAVER,
President Negro Business League of Greater Kansas City.

THE BOOSTERS.
The Boosters met at the Y. M. C. A. December 3 at their regular monthly meeting with a large number present. Everyone seemed to be enthused with the Booster spirit. Our own Dr. T. C. Unthank gave to us an interesting talk which greatly encouraged every Booster and extended an invitation to the club to be represented at the gymnasium exercises given by our school children at Convention hall December 17, and at once box seats were engaged for the occasion. Plans were laid for a Booster supper December 30. Rev. Wm. H. Thomas, a full fledged Booster, will deliver an address together with an interesting program.
F. B. MEYER, Reporter.
Paseo Y. M. C. A.

"LISTEN!"
Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Wanted! One thousand good fellows to assist in bringing good cheer and happiness into the homes of the less fortunate hundreds of families in Kansas City to receive their only Christmas cheer from the Good Fellows while thousands of destitute children flock to the Mayor's Christmas Tree which knows no caste or color and made possible only by public subscription.
Those who desire to have a part in making 10,000 souls happy Christmas day in Kansas City, please send your contribution to the Chief Good Fellow, No. 200 Sumner Bldg., Kansas City, Mo., or to the Paseo Y. M. C. A., care Edward Ross.

Women's Clubs.
Grand entertainment and ball, Monday night, December 13, at Lyric Hall, by the Right Hand Club Auxiliary of B. L. I. P. U. of A. Admission 10 cents.

The Oak Leaf Art Club will meet at 2114 Woodland avenue December 17, and the 24th will meet at 1226 Michigan avenue. All members are asked to be present as it is just before Christmas. The Club members had a fine meeting with Miss Davis. MRS. TONEY, President. E. WANZER, Secretary.

COURT OF CALANTHE.
By the way we are here again with our anniversary party at Lyric hall December 17. Officers of Sojourner Truth Court No. 35, O. O. C. Dancing. Good music. Admission 25 cents.
The two flags of the Second regiment U. R. K. of P. will be on exhibition here that evening.

LYCEUM ART CLUB.
The Lyceum Art Club met with Mrs. Bettie Smith, 2310 Highland avenue, Friday, December 3. After business was transacted we were served with a dainty luncheon by the hostess. We then adjourned to meet with Mrs. Mary Wheeler, Friday, December 10.
MRS. ADDIE ALLEN, Pres. MISS MABLE C. SMITH, Sec.

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP.
On November 17 a complimentary program was given by the Lincoln High Alumni to the Federated Alumni. In spite of the inclement weather 100 persons were present to listen to an excellent program by representatives of Lincoln High classes from '92 to 1913 were on the program in speech, song and yell.

On this evening a \$50 scholarship given by the Federated Alumni was presented to the committee of the faculty, Mr. W. H. Dawley for Miss Mamie Lewis, class '14, who had been selected for the honor. The following communication has been received: "Emery Hall, Wilberforce, Ohio, November 20, 1915.
"Member of the Alumni Association, Kansas City, Mo.
"I find no words with which to express my thankfulness for having been named the beneficiary of your scholarship. I received the \$50 today and I assure you that I will do all in my power to make myself worthy of your kindness.
Sincerely yours,
"MAMIE J. LEWIS."

Mr. Daniel Lucas, Kansas City's best known citizen, lies very low with little hope of recovery.



W. C. MOON.

Moon's New Market
MOON'S LIVE AND DRESSED
POULTRY FRESH FROM THE COUNTRY.
What time is the clock striking now? Half million in Greater Kansas City. The estimated population of Greater Kansas City within the five-cent car fare limit is 525,000. The City Directory estimates the population to be 367,339. Kansas City has 425 miles of pavement, 480 miles of sewers, 565 miles of water mains, 336 churches, 121 elementary and high schools, 1,250 factories employing colored persons (44,000).
Moon's New Market with the Best of Produce, products fresh from the country, is a Kansas City Institution, and has been in all things for the general good of this city incidentally building up a store of the highest class where you get the maximum value for minimum cost with personal care and good service included.
Give us your order for Christmas and we will serve you properly. Bell phone Grand 1746W.
MOON'S
Poultry and Provision Co.
1335 East 16th Street, at Lydia.

THE GOLDEN WEST.
AN INTERESTING REVIEW OF THE PEOPLE, TOWNS AND POSSIBILITIES OF THE GREAT WESTERN SECTION OF OUR COUNTRY.

The Colored Americans Making Good in the Far West and a Steady Stream of Desirable Immigration Now Pouring Into That Splendid Country With Its Wonderful Possibilities.
—By the Editor.
Chapter 8.

On account of the fact that we had been heralded as a public speaker, and there being quite a few former Missourians living in Portland, we were besieged during our brief stay to deliver an address to which all the citizens irrespective of fraternalities who desired might be welcome.

We finally agreed to do so on condition the managers would arrange for an impromptu emancipation celebration, as the next day was Tuesday, September 22, the day in old Missouri we celebrate as Emancipation day, to which the committee agreed, and arrangements were made forthwith. On Tuesday morning we were guests in company with Madame Victoria Clay Haley, grand matron of Missouri, at an 11 o'clock breakfast at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Williams, and were royally entertained, and met dear old Mother Tipton, an ex-Kansas, and a sister-in-law of the late David Tipton of Emporia. Mrs. Williams herself was once a Kansas Cityan and remembers quite a few of older prominent citizens. We were served one of the most delightful and elaborate breakfasts that it has ever been our pleasure to enjoy, and we had some serious fears for the grand secretary for the desperate and continued assaults he made on the elaborate spread that had been prepared for us. After a most enjoyable morning we were again taken for a drive by some of the brethren in the afternoon, and at 6 were dinner guests of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. J. Logan Craw at the most beautiful parsonage in the Fifth Episcopal district. Rev. Craw and wife are both well known in Kansas City, she being one of the talented Jeltz girls of Topeka before her marriage, and he was for quite awhile a member of Allen chapel's choir, and both are graduates of Emporia normal. Dr. Craw has done a wonderful work for his church and race in this great Western city, and has given up one of the most up-to-date churches in the connection and has been elected chairman of the Puget Sound conference delegation to the next General Conference. The church needs more men like J. Logan Craw.

At night we delivered the Emancipation address at Mt. Olivet Baptist church, Rev. Magget, pastor (and a very able and affable gentleman, too), and found a packed house awaiting us, and proceeded to put on an old-time Emancipation address, which gave satisfaction, and for awhile carried all back to their former homes in the Southland as we all sang "John Brown's Body," "The Battle Cry of Freedom," "Nearer My God, to Thee" and "America"; and after the program we met many former Missourians and Kansans among whom were Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Ford, who are doing nicely there and who are still taking The Sun, being the first subscribers on the books of this paper; Mr. and Mrs. Franklin (Mrs. Franklin was formerly Miss Cora Yancy, and they are now blessed with five children); Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Merriman, Mrs. Merriman was formerly Barbara Davis; the three Rutherford brothers, who have a neat little up-to-date furnishing goods store and a modern tonorial parlor. Edw. being secretary of Enterprise lodge of the Washington Jurisdiction; also J. C. Logan, past grand master of the Washington and one of the influential men of the Northwest, and many others whose names we do not recall just at this time.

BLANCHE ROBERTS-THOMPSON.
In 1868 a girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. George A. Roberts. In 1905 she was graduated from Lincoln High school near the head of her class. In 1906 she was married to Edward B. Thompson and became the fond mother of one girl and five boys.
Friday, Dec. 3, 1915, she died.
Her life was gentle and the elements so mixed in her that not only nature but the resolutions of her several friends and the organization with which she was identified all attest that she was a dutiful daughter, a loving wife, a devoted mother, a firm friend, and an earnest though quiet worker.
No one who had made a deep impression for good upon the community could have caused to assemble to pay the last tribute of respect at a home which taxed the capacity of Centennial M. E. church, Monday, Dec. 7, 1915, as did Mrs. Blanche Roberts-Thompson.